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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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Soviet OB Summary 13-20 December 1951

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- 1. There were no discernible changes in the general situation of the Russian order of battle in Germany during the past week.
- 2. Movements which have been determined to date in conjunction with the regrouping of units in the 8th Guards Frmy area include the movements of the headquarters of the XXVIII Guards Motorized Rifle Corps with troops of the corps headquarters from Gera to Rudolstadt; the bulk of the 39th Guards Motorized Rifle Division from Rudolstadt and Saalfeld to the Ohrdruf training grounds; and the transfer of an LWD regiment from Halle to Auerbach/Vogtland.
- 3. Small troop units were still engaged in firing practice at various troop training grounds in the Russian zone in November and early December. Tank and artillery components of the four divisions of the Oth Guards Army were observed moving by rail to the troop training grounds at Ohrdruf and Kindel in November.
- 4. Rail movements in connection with the replacement of dischargees by recruits apparently ended about 10 December. Total reported number of trains included 56 west bound with recruits and 46 east bound with dischargees.
- 5. Six new fighter regiments have been determined in the Russian Zone. Two are at Finow, two at Köthen, one at Brandis, and one at Alt Loennewitz.
- 6. The type of flying reported at these air fields indicates that pilots are familiarizing themselves with the operation of MiG 15's. Flights are usually made singly. No formation flying has been noted at these units to date. There are indications that three other new fighter regiments may be in the process of activation at Grossenhain and Neuruppin airfields.

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Comment: On the basis of previous experience, it is believed that six or nine fighter regiments in question will have attained combat efficiency by the spring of 1952. At that time, the fighter elements of the Soviet Air Force in Germany would again consist of 18 fighter regiments as before October 1951. Nine of these regiments would lack the maneuver experience of the other nine and would therefore be somewhat below the standards of top combat performance.

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